



United States Department of Agriculture



**Green Mountain/Finger Lakes National Forests**  
**Rainbow Family National Gathering**  
**Daily Information Update Through July 3, 2016**  
**June 20, 2016**

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**Update 1**

The 2016 Rainbow Family of Living Light national gathering is being held on the Green Mountain National Forest near Danby, VT.

The National Incident Command Team charged with managing the event in cooperation with the law enforcement agencies from Vermont became fully operational on 6/19/16.

Approximately 200 Rainbow Family members are currently encamped at a gathering site on Forest Road 10 in Mount Tabor.

On 6/19/16, 4 warning notices, 4 citations for traffic and drug violations, and one arrest for DUI.

Two thefts have been reported in surrounding communities, including Fred the dog from the Rutland humane society and fire wood from a local resident.

U.S. Forest Service resource specialists are working with Rainbow Family members on resource protection issues and properly implementing the operations plan.

Local residents who visit the gathering site should proceed with caution. Traffic is congested, parking is limited, and visibility is reduced due to dusty roads.



Rainbow kitchen facilities at a 2010 event.



**Quick Facts**

- The Rainbow Family of Living Light is a large group of people who describe themselves as having no leaders or organization. Approximately 10,000 participants are expected by July 4, 2016.
- Following the holiday, attendance rapidly declines and Rainbow Family members start rehabilitation.
- Such a large group of people typically display a wide range of needs and behaviors that can stress the services and resources of a small, rural community. The U.S. Forest Service is working with the Vermont State Police, county sheriff departments, county emergency managers, volunteer fire departments and health care providers to ensure both public safety and resource protection.
- For more information on the Green Mountain NF website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmfl>